GHTER PROTECTION PUT ON U.S. SECRET MATERIAL

All government agencies handling secret material have been ordered to tighten up their security procedures because of recent violations, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara has disclosed.

"All of the executive departments have been instructed to observe strictly the appropriate clearance procedures," he said.

The secretary did not elaborate on what he termed "recent security violations in this country."

McNamara's comments are in testimony, made public yesterday, to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on the Tonkin Gulf incident.

He declined at one point to discuss an intelligence report, which he said carried a classification above top secret, because committee staff members had not been cleared for such information.

On the particular intelligence report, McNamara broke off the exchange with committee members by stating, "I do not want to get into a further discussion until the room is cleared of those not authorized to handle it. We would run the risk of compromising intelligence sources if disclosed."